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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release to the PM's of MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 1945

The 1945 regulations governing the hunting of migratory game birds were announced today by the Secretary of the Interior, Harold L. Ickes. The new rules continue the 80 day season but the additional daily bag of 5 mallards, pintails, or widgeons is no longer allowed.

The waterfowl hunting season begins September 20 in the northern zone, October 13 in the intermediate zone, and November 2 in the southern zone. With certain exceptions hunting will be permitted from half an hour before sunrise to sunset.

Three northern counties in California have been assigned to the intermediate zone and the remainder of the State to the southern zone. Lake Texhoma, lying partly within Oklahoma and Texas, is placed in the intermediate zone.

Adopted by Secretary Ickes in accordance with a law of Congress making effective treaties relating to birds migrating between the United States, Canada and Mexico, the amended regulations were approved by President Truman on July 31. They were recommended by the Fish and Wildlife Service after biological investigations and consultations with State game administrators.

The post-season period for possession of migratory game birds has been extended from 45 to 90 days.

To control the kill of geese frequenting Horseshoe Lake in Alexander County, Illinois, the season in that county will be only from November 24 to December 31, between the hours of 12 o'clock noon and 4:30 p.m. The same season and hours will be applicable this year in the counties of Mississippi, Scott, and Cape Girardeau in Missouri.

A special coot season from October 1 to December 31 has been provided in Lake and McHenry counties, Illinois.

The season for hunting scoters (commonly called sea coots) beyond outer harbor lines in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island prior to the commencement of the state-wide waterfowl season has been extended 12 days.

The seasons for rails and gallinules in Massachusetts and New York have been changed to conform to the waterfowl seasons in those states. No change was made in the regulation that does not authorize the taking of waterfowl by means of bait or live duck or goose decoys.

No open season is provided for Ross' Goose and swans; wood ducks in Massachusetts and North Dakota; snow geese in Beaverhead, Gallatin, and Madison counties in Montana, in Idaho, and in states bordering on the Atlantic Ocean.

The open season for wild ducks, geese, brant, and coot are as follows, both dates inclusive:

Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio (except Pymatuning Reservoir and one quarter of a mile distant in any direction from said reservoir), South Dakota, Vermont, and Wisconsin, September 20 to December 8.

Ohio, on the Pymatuning Reservoir in Ashtabula County and one quarter of a mile distant in any direction from said reservoir, October 13 to December 31.

California, in Modoc, Lassen, and Siskiyou Counties, October 13 to December 31; in remainder of State, November 2 to January 20.

Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York (except certain hereinafter designated portions of Essex, Clinton, and Washington Counties) including Long Island, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming, October 13 to December 31.

New York, in Essex and Clinton Counties east of the tracks of the main line of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad and that part of Washington County east of the aforesaid tracks to and including the village of South Bay and all the waters of South Bay and one mile distant from such water in any direction, September 20 to December 8,

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, November 2 to January 20.

Texas, on those portions of Lake Texhoma in Cooke and Grayson Counties, October 13 to December 31; in remainder of State, November 2 to January 20.

Puerto Rico, December 15 to February 12.

Alaska, in Fur Districts 1 and 3 as defined in the regulations governing the taking of game in Alaska adopted May 15, 1944 (9 F.R. 5270), September 21 to December 9; in the remainder of Alaska, September 1 to November 19.

Provided, That scoters, locally known as sea coots, may be taken in open coastal waters only, beyond outer harbor lines, in Maine and New Hampshire from September 15 to September 19; and in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York including Long Island, and Rhode Island, from September 15 to October 12, and thereafter from land or water during the open seasons for other waterfowl in these States.

Geese, in Alexander County, Illinois, and in the counties of Mississippi, Scott, and Cape Girardeau in Missouri, November 24 to December 31 from 12 o'clock noon to 4:30 p.m.

Coot, in Lake and McHenry Counties, Illinois, October 1 to December 31.

Rails and gallinules (except coot).—The open season on rails and gallinules (except coot) shall be from September 1 to November 30, both dates inclusive, except as follows:

Alabama, November 20 to January 31.

Louisiana, September 15 to December 15.

Maine and Wisconsin, September 20 to December 8.

Maryland, September 1 to October 31,

Massachusetts and New York, including Long Island, October 13 to December 31.

Minnesota, September 16 to November 30.

Mississippi, October 15 to December 30.

Puerto Rico, December 15 to February 12.

California, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Tennessee, and Washington, no open season.

Woodcock.—The open seasons on woodcock shall be as follows, both dates inclusive:

Arkansas and Oklahoma, December 1 to December 15,

Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Jersey, October 20 to November 3.

Delaware and Maryland, November 15 to November 29.

Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi, December 15 to December 29.

Indiana and West Virginia, October 16 to October 30.

Maine, in Aroostook, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Somerset, Franklin, and Oxford Counties, October 1 to October 15; in remainder of State, October 16 to October 30.

Michigan, in Upper Peninsula, October 1 to October 15; in remainder of State, October 15 to October 29.

Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, October 10 to October 24.

Missouri, November 10 to November 24.

New Hampshire, in Coos, Carroll, and Grafton Counties, October 1 to October 15; in remainder of State, October 16 to October 30.

New York, north and east of the tracks of the branch line of the New York Central Railroad from Oswego to Syracuse, the main line of the New York Central Railroad from Syracuse to Albany, and the main line of the Boston & Albany Railroad from Albany to the Massachusetts State line, October 10 to October 24; west and south of the line above described, October 15 to October 29; and that part of New York known as Long Island, November 1 to November 15, from 1 p.m. until sunset

on the opening day in each of these zones, and thereafter in all of the aforesaid zones from 8 a.m. until sunset.

Rhode Island, November 1 to November 15.

Vermont, in Bennington and Windham Counties and those portions of Rutland and Windsor Counties south of U.S. Highway Route 4 from West Haven to White River Junction, October 16 to October 30; in remainder of State, October 1 to October 15.

Virginia, November 20 to December 4.

Mourning, or Turtle, Dove.---The open seasons on mourning, or turtle, dove shall be as follows, both dates inclusive:

Arizona, California, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, September 1 to October 30.

Alabama, Georgia, and Louisiana, October 1 to October 15 and December 18 to January 31.

Arkansas and Mississippi, September 16 to September 30 and December 18 to January 31.

Colorado, Nevada, and New Mexico, September 1 to October 12.

Delaware and Tennessee, September 16 to November 14.

Florida, in Dade and Monroe Counties, October 1 to October 31; in remainder of State, November 20 to January 18.

Idaho and Oregon, September 1 to September 15.

Illinois, September 1 to September 30.

Kentucky, September 1 to October 25.

Maryland, September 1 to October 15.

Minnesota, September 16 to September 30.

North Carolina and South Carolina, September 16 to October 15 and January 2 to January 31.

Pennsylvania, November 1 to November 30.

Texas, in Val Verde, Edwards, Real, Bandero, Kendall, Blanco, Burnet, Williamson, Milam, Robertson, Leon, Houston, Cherokee, Nacogdoches, and Shelby Counties and all counties north and west thereof, September 1 to October 30; in remainder of State, but not including Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, Zapata, Webb, Maverick, Kinney, Dimmit, LaSalle, Jim Hogg, Brooks, Kenedy, and Willacy Counties, October 20 to December 18; in these latter counties, September 13, 16, 18, 20, and 23 from 12 o'clock noon until sunset, and thereafter October 20 to December 13 from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Virginia, September 16 to October 31.

White-winged Dove.---The open seasons on white-winged dove shall be as follows, both dates inclusive:

Arizona, September 1 to September 15.

Texas, in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, Zapata, Webb, Maverick, Kinney, Dimmit, LaSalle, Jim Hogg, Brooks, Kenedy, Willacy, Val Verde, Terrell, Brewster, Presidio, Jeff Davis, Culberson, Hudspeth, and El Paso Counties, September 13, 16, 18, 20, and 23 from 12 o'clock noon until sunset.

Band-tailed Pigeon.---The open seasons on band-tailed pigeon shall be as follows, both dates inclusive:

Arizona, Colorado, in the drainage of the North Fork of the Gunnison River in Gunnison and Delta Counties and in LaPlata, Montezuma, Dolores, San Miguel, Montrose, Ouray, San Juan, Archuleta, Huerfano, and Las Animas Counties, and in New Mexico and Washington, September 16 to October 15.

California, December 1 to December 30.

Oregon, September 1 to September 30.

Bag and Possession Limits

On the opening day of the season no person may possess any migratory game birds in excess of the daily bag limits.

Daily bag limits on ducks (except American and redbreasted mergansers) are 10 in the aggregate of all kinds, including in such limit not more than 1 wood duck. Any person at any time may possess not more than 20 ducks in the aggregate of all kinds (not including American and redbreasted mergansers), but not more than 1 wood duck. American and redbreasted mergansers, 25 singly or in the aggregate with no possession limit.

In Pacific Coast States, 4 snow and white-fronted geese (singly or in the aggregate) plus 2 of some other kind, including brant, may be taken in a day, and 8 snows and white-fronts plus 4 of some other kind, including brant, may be possessed. Elsewhere than on the west coast 4 blue and snow geese (singly or in the aggregate) plus 2 of some other kind, including brant, may be taken in a day, and 8 blues and snows plus 4 of other kinds, including brant, may be possessed.

Rails and gallinules (except sora and coot).---Fifteen in the aggregate of all kinds, and any person may possess not more than 15 in the aggregate of all kinds.

Coot.---Twenty-five, and any person may possess not more than 25.

Sora.---Twenty-five, and any person may possess not more than 25.

Woodcock.---Four, and any person may possess not more than 8.

Mourning or turtle dove and white-winged dove.---Ten in the aggregate of both kinds, and any person may possess not more than 10 mourning doves or more than 10 white-winged doves.

Band-tailed pigeon.---Ten, and any person may possess not more than 10.